346 lines of a military school where the discipline is strict and the [292] boys are taught to be self-reliant. Dressed in their school uniform of blue smock, gathered at the waist with a red sash [541] and a white cotton head cloth held in place by a black cord, these boys put on a physical training display on gala occasions which would not disgrace the Royal Tournament at Earl's Court.

643 The old Sultan, His Highness Sir Saleh bin Ghalib, K.C.M.G., was a well-read and wise old gentleman whose death in 1956 was a sad blow to his people and to his State. [533] I have enjoyed his hospitality on more than one occasion and listened with pleasure to his band which, under an Indian Bandmaster, played Eastern and Western tunes with equal facility. It was this band that played at Government House in Aden when Her Majesty the Queen and His Royal Highness Prince Philip, honoured me with their presence at lunch in 1954. His Highness was himself present on that occasion, together with other representatives of the Protectorate and the [523] Colony. In his own house after dinner it was the Sultan's custom to entertain his guests with a cinema show which, whether composed of commercial productions or of films he had himself produced and photographed, was always entertaining, even though the sound was rather overpowering: I could never understand, since he was certainly not deaf, why he always had the sound turned up to such a degree that one was almost deafened. The Sultan loved anything to do with films and knew more than most amateurs about the mechanism of his cameras, projectors and tape recorders. It was in Mukalla that I saw and heard Charlie Chaplin speaking Arabic; an Arabic sound track having been added by the Sultan himself to one of the old silent Chaplin films.

636 Politically the State was more advanced than most of the 643 Protectorate States and His Highness ruled with the aid of a 645 State Council, on which were not only the able Sudanese Chief Minister and the astute Pakistani Finance Minister, but unofficial Arab members representing trading and other interests 642 in the State. Throughout the State, control and government 636 have been decentralised down from the Central Government